

11 June 2020

Dear Members

Postponement of Administrative Adjudication of Road Traffic Offences Amendment (Aarto) Bill

The Aarto Bill that was originally signed into law in August 2019 and earmarked to be rolled out and operational on 1 June 2020, has since been postponed.

Earlier this month, Minister of Transport, Fikile Mbalula, stated that the roll out of the Aarto Bill, which includes the licence points demerit system, will be postponed as a result of the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Minister went on to state that due to the pandemic, the Road Traffic Infringement Agency (RTIA), which is entirely responsible for Aarto and the implementation thereof, had experienced financial difficulties and currently cannot fund the process. This is as a direct result of a severe loss of revenue by RTIA due to the COVID-19 outbreak that has comprised the agency's ability to support the preparatory activities and prerequisites of the planned roll out.

The ministry has advised that the situation would be reviewed in due course for further determination as to when the roll out would be promulgated, however for now there is no confirmation in regards to when Aarto will take effect.

The RMI will continue to keep its valued members updated on developments in this regard and we will inform the membership once we receive confirmation from the Minister regarding the roll out of Aarto.